

Woodsman's Weekend

Outing-club teams from visiting colleges set up camp on shores of Storrs Pond, a mile from Dartmouth campus

Field & Stream reports intercollegiate woodcraft

meet as eight college teams compete in annual

contests sponsored by the Dartmouth Outing Club



Dartmouth president John Sloan Dickey fires starting gun for felling event to open the meet. Lending assistance is his yellow Labrador retriever, Rusty

WHEN Eleazar Wheelock established Dartmouth College at Hanover, New Hampshire, in 1769, one of his primary purposes was to provide schooling for Indian pupils. Today over one-third of the Dartmouth student body follow old Eleazar's original precepts in reverse, perfecting their skills in the out-of-doors. Center of focus for this outdoor enthusiasm is the Dartmouth Outing Club, founded in 1910 and probably best known for its sponsorship of the famed Dartmouth Winter Carnival, but now operating a unified program covering every phase of outdoor activity on a year-round basis.

Woodsman's Weekend was conceived by Ross McKenney, former

Maine guide and now woodcraft advisor and father-confessor for DOC members. It is designed to test the proficiency of student woodsmen in a variety of outdoor skills in competition with members of other collegiate outing clubs.

First held in 1946 with only three teams competing, last spring saw teams from Dartmouth, Kimball Union Academy, McGill University, University of Maine, Middlebury College, Norwich University, Paul Smith's College and Williams College battling it out in a dozen hotly contested events.

FIELD & STREAM and DOC photographers were on hand to record the competitions. For what they saw, turn the page.
—HUGH GREY



In the felling event, two-man chopping teams cut through poplar logs while twitchers stand ready, 25 feet behind the choppers



When logs fall, twitchers rush forward, lash on 30-foot rope and skid log 100 feet to finish line. Best time: 35.3 seconds

Pulp-throwing contest is four-man relay event in which 4-foot billets are thrown 16 feet to land between stakes 4 feet apart



Ross McKenney, former Maine guide, now advisor to Dartmouth Outing Club, originated the contests



McGill students bend their backs in cross-cut saw event. Log is 16 feet long, must be cut into 4-foot lengths by a two-man team

Chopping event is three-man relay race, each competitor cutting through 10-inch poplar log that has been secured prior to start



Six-man teams chop and saw, blow,
portage and paddle in strenuous

all-day tests of woodmen's skills

PHOTOGRAPHS BY NICK DEAN AND DAN HOLLAND

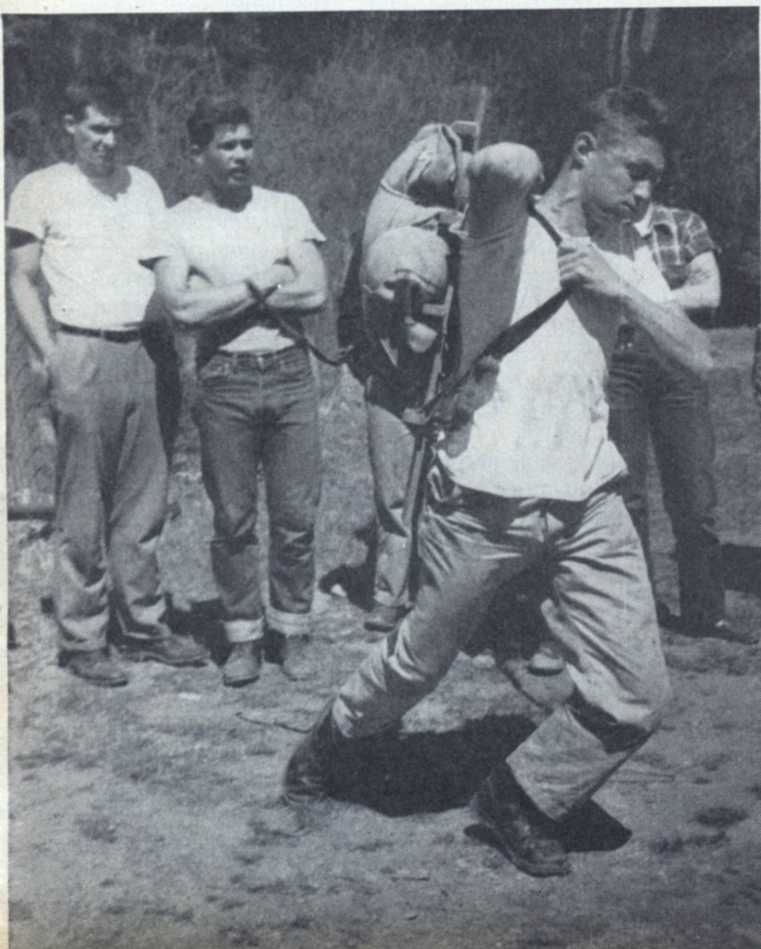


University of Maine men exhort teammate as he cuts through in six-man buck-sawing event. Each contestant makes two cuts

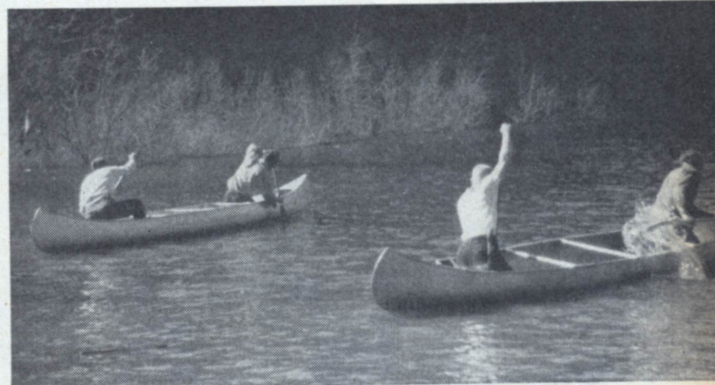


Dartmouth fire-builders must start blaze with two matches, boil over tea-pail of soapy water. McGill won in 11 minutes 6 seconds

In packboard relay race contestants sprint 100 yards with 50-pound bag of sand, fry-pan and blanket lashed to packboard



After shouldering canoe 50 feet from shore, Dartmouth's Tom McCrea hits water, paddles 200 yards in one-man portage race



In two-man canoe race paddlers must cover 200 yards and pass through markers at turning point, similar to slalom ski race

The winning Dartmouth team: Les Viereck, Hap Person, Pete Patterson, Don Palmer, Dick Hollingsworth, Put Blodgett

